

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 249A.4 and 2013 Iowa Acts, Senate File 446, section 29, the Department of Human Services proposes to amend Chapter 79, “Other Policies Relating to Providers of Medical and Remedial Care,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These amendments change the payment methodology for home health services to the Medicare low utilization payment amount (LUPA) methodology, with state geographic wage adjustments. The Department will update the rates every two years. The rates for private duty nursing and personal care home health services will be based on an hourly interim rate subject to cost settlement and subject to a limit calculated by the Department and approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Payments to Medicaid home health services providers and private duty nursing and personal care providers will be impacted for services provided to Medicaid members. These amendments will change the reimbursement for home health services to a visit rate established by Medicare. These amendments will not require any additional costing information. Private duty nursing and personal care will remain at an hourly rate. The interim rate will be cost-settled up to a cap established by the Department.

These amendments were also Adopted and Filed Emergency and are published herein as **ARC 0864C**. The purpose of this Notice is to solicit comment on that submission, the subject matter of which is incorporated by reference.

Any interested person may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before August 13, 2013. Comments should be directed to Harry Rossander, Bureau of Policy Coordination, Department of Human Services, Hoover State Office Building, Fifth Floor, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0114. Comments may be sent by fax to (515)281-4980 or by e-mail to policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us.

These amendments do not provide for waiver in specified situations because requests for waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department’s general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

After analysis and review of this rule making, no specific impact on private sector jobs has been found. These amendments will allow more agencies the ability to continue to provide services rather than discontinue being a provider of home health services. These amendments should maintain current employment in the state.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 249A.4.